## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS MCALLEN DIVISION

FEDERICO FLORES, JR., MARIA GUERRERO, and S VICENTE GUERRERO, § Plaintiffs, § § § CIVIL ACTION NO.7:18-cv-113 S v. § TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE and § ARMANDINA MARTINEZ, ALMA GARCIA, ALICIA DOUGHERTY NO. § 1, ALICIA DOUGHERTY NO. 2, YOLANDA MARTINEZ, Defendants. §

ORAL DEPOSITION OF

MARIA GUERRERO

JULY 25, 2019

ORAL DEPOSITION OF MARIA GUERRERO, produced as a witness at the instance of the Defendant, and duly sworn, was taken in the above-styled and -numbered cause on the July 25th day of July, 2019, from 12:01 p.m. to 12:38 p.m., before TOI K. DOWELL, CSR, in and for the State of Texas, reported by machine shorthand at the home of Vicente Guerrero and Maria Guerrero, 19 Florez Street, Roma, Texas, 78584 pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the provisions stated on the record or attached hereto.

	2		4
1	APPEARANCES	1	(The Interpreter was duly sworn)
2	FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:	2	MARIA GUERRERO,
4	Ms. Marty Vela	3	having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:
_	NAJVAR LAW FIRM	4	EXAMINATION
5	2180 North Loop West, Suite 255 Houston, Texas 77018-8014	5	BY MR. ABRAMS.
6	Phone (281) 404-4696	6	Q Good afternoon. Can you please state your name for
7	Email: jerad@najvarlaw.com	7	the record.
	FOR THE DEFENDANTS:	8	A Marie Rosa Guerra.
9	Mr. Michael R. Abrams	9	Q My name is Michael Abrams, and I represent the
10	ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL Office of the Attorney General-019	10	Texas Secretary of State in this case.
10	General Litigation Division	11	A Okay.
11	Post Office Box 12548, Capitol Station	12	MR. JOSE GARZA: I'm Jose Garza, and I
12	Austin, Texas 78711-2548 Phone: (512)463-2120	13	represent several of the defendants.
	Email: michael.abrams@oag.texas.gov	14	Q (By Mr. Abrams) Ms. Guerrero, have you ever been
13	Mr. Jose Garza	15	deposed before?
14	GARZA GOLANDO MORAN	16	A Never.
	405 North Saint Mary's Street, Suite 700	17	Q So I just want to go over a few of the, sort of,
15	San Antonio, Texas Phone: (210)892-8543	18	ground rules of how depositions work just to help us go
16	1 Horie. (210)032-0343	19	smoothly.
17		20	A Okay.
18 19	ALSO PRESENT: Nelson Troncoso, Interpreter	21	
20			Q So one thing is to give clear, verbal answers to
21		22	the questions rather than shaking your head, and that's so
22 23		23	that the court reporter can get a clear record of what's
24		24 25	happening.  And obviously we are working through a translator,
		20	And obviously we are working infough a translator.
25			
25	3		5
25	3 I N D E X	1	5 but please let me finish my question, and then have the
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6 1 Q Did you review any documents prior to the the attorney over here, every time I sign, I don't write my 2 deposition? complete name, Rosa. I just put the R. And do you see the handwriting on Bullet 4? 3 Α No. This right here (indicating)? 4 Q Did you meet with any attorneys before the 5 Q Yes. 5 deposition? 6 Yes. It's in English, right? 6 Α No. 7 Did you write this? 7 Ms. Guerrero, are you currently employed? 8 No, no. I don't know how to write like this. 8 Α 9 9 Q When was the last time you were employed? Okay. Well, what it says is that you were home with your husband when you voted in the March 2018 primary 10 Well, many years ago. 11 election, and that we both signed the application and the 11 What did you do? Work on the fields. Lettuce. 12 ballot envelope. 12 Α 13 Α Yes, uh-huh. 13 Okay. When did you move to Starr County? Q 14 So is that statement accurate? 14 Α It's been like 40 years already. 15 Well, not mine nor my husband's either. 15 And were you born in Starr County? 16 I'm sorry. What do you mean by that? No. In Mexico, but I became a United States 16 17 What do you mean? 17 citizen already. THE INTERPRETER: You're asking if that's 18 18 Q And when did you become a United States citizen? 19 correct? I don't remember the date, but it's been like 19 20 MR. ABRAMS: Yeah, if that statement is 20 20-something years ago. I'm not quite sure how many years. 21 correct. 21 And Ms. Guerrero, are you married? Q 22 Α Okay. Well, I don't know. I did not write this. 22 Α Yes. 23 Q (By Mr. Abrams) Okay. Let me -- I can take a step 23 Q And your husband is Vicente Guerrero? 24 back. 24 Α 25 Ms. Guerrero, are you eligible to vote in Starr 25 Q How long have you been married? 7 9 Sixty years. Too much. County? 1 1 2 And do you have any children? Q 2 Α 3 Α Yes. 3 Q And are you registered to vote in Starr County? 4 Q How many children? 4 Α Yes. 5 A Four. Two males and two females. Yesterday was 5 Q And do you ever vote in person? 6 five months that one of my daughters passed away. 6 Yes. At the beginning. Α 7 7 Q And do you ever vote by mail? Q I'm very sorry -- sorry for that. 8 8 Yes. Several times. A Thank you. 9 Q Ms. Guerrero, what -- what claim -- well, I mean --9 In the March 2018 primary elections, did you vote by mail or submit -- did you submit an application to vote 10 let me back up. 10 11 Are you the plaintiff in a lawsuit brought against 11 by mail? the Secretary of State and various officials for the early 12 12 A My, gosh, I don't remember that well, but I think 13 ballot -- ballot written board? so. It's been, like, two or three years that I've been A Yes. 14 voting by mail. 14 15 And what claims are you bringing in this lawsuit? 15 Q Turn to the next page of this document. A Because they are saying that that is not the 16 Do you recognize this document? 16 signature for that vote, but that is the signature. 17 17 THE INTERPRETER: This one. 18 (M. Guerrero Exhibit No. 1 was marked.) 18 A This one right here (indicating)? 19 Q (By Mr. Abrams) I've handed you what we'll mark as 19 Q (By Mr. Abrams) Yes. 20 Exhibit 1 of your deposition which -- oh -- which I'll 20 Okay. I see my signature here, too. represent to you is a Declaration that you have given in 21 If you look at Box 10 -- yeah, it's at the bottom 21

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Exhibit B - Page 3 of 7

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Can you please review the Declaration and verify

A Oh, yes, this is me. Like I was telling Mrs. -- to

that this is your signature on the bottom?

22

23

24

25

there.

Α

Q

This one right here.

Is that your signature?

And this is my phone number.

22

23

24

25

10 12 1 Q And do you see where you've signed your name in Box 1 Q I'm not trying to ask any conversations you had 2 10? 2 with the attorney, but can you tell me who the attorney was? 3 Α Right here? 3 Well, he gave me his name but I forgot. 4 Q Yes. 4 Was his name maybe Jared Najvar? 5 Yes. Α 5 A I can't remember. 6 Q Is that your signature? 6 (M. Guerrero Exhibit No. 2 was marked.) 7 Α Yes. 7 Q (By Mr. Abrams) I want to show you what we'll mark 8 Q And I notice that you didn't -- your last name 8 as Exhibit 2. And I'll represent that this is a Notice of 9 doesn't have your full -- it doesn't state your full name. 9 Rejected Ballot from the Early Voting Ballot Board. 10 Is there a reason for that? 10 Do you recognize this document? 11 Guerrero, yes, it's there. Guerrero. A I don't remember -- remember about this one. 11 12 If you go back to the first page of your 12 March 6th? I don't think this is my writing here because it Declaration, it says that you -- it says that you left out 13 doesn't even have the R here. some letters of your last name because you did not want to 14 And I'll tell you, this is a notification to you write over the word "date." 15 15 that your ballot had been rejected. 16 A Oh, yes. Yes. 16 Α Oh. 17 So if you look back on the next page, on Page 2. 17 Do you recall receiving this document? 18 A This one? Yeah, because I didn't want to write 18 19 over this; so, that's why I wrote it like this. 19 So how do you recall learning when -- how do you 20 So you did leave off a few letters of your last 20 recall learning that your ballot in the March 2018 primary 21 name in your signature? was rejected? 22 MS. VELA: Objection, form. 22 Because the attorney came here. It was an attorney 23 A Just an R. That's it, or is it --23 and another lady. 24 (By Mr. Abrams) And if you turn to the last page 24 Q And do you recall who the other woman was? of the exhibit, do you recognize this document? 25 No, I didn't -- I did not know her. 25 11 13 Did you reach out to the woman and the attorney 1 Yes, because this is my signature. 1 Α 2 Do you recognize this as a ballot envelope? 2 first, or did they reach out to you? 3 No. They -- they came over. 3 A Yes. It can -- and this three. 4 And you signed the ballot envelope with your 4 Q Did you -- were you expecting them when they came 5 over? signature on the -- in the middle of the page there? 5 6 MS. VELA: Objection, form. 6 A Where? 7 No. They suddenly showed up. 7 Q At the top of the page? 8 (By Mr. Abrams) Do you recall when this was? A Right here? Yes, this is my signature right here, 8 9 No, I don't have the date. They were here, but I 9 and this one over here (indicating). 10 don't know when. 10 Q Do you recall after submitting or -- do you recall 11 O Would you be able to say if it was about a couple 11 after signing your ballot application and signing the of months ago? 12 envelope and you put the envelope in the mail or gave it to 12 13 Α No. More than that. 13 another individual to put in the mail -- what -- what did 14 Has it been a year since then? 14 you do with the envelope once you signed it? 15 No, not that much; but more than the two months. 15 A We put it in the mail. Well, now I don't remember 16 So sometime between two months and a year ago you if we put it in the mail or we gave it to the girl; but it 17 received this visit? 17 was already packed or closed. 18 Yes. They were here. 18 Q Okay. And when you say, "gave it to the girl," who And are you -- is it your testimony that at that 19 19 is that? time you learned that your March 2018 ballot had been 20 A I do know her, but I don't remember her name. It's 21 rejected? 21 just when they come here, just for this purpose. 22 MS. VELA: Objection, leading.

23

24

Yes.

(By Mr. Abrams) And what did you do after that

Q

25 meeting?

22

23

24

25

ballot had been rejected?

and the other girl.

Q Do you recall receiving a notification that your

Yes. Well, that was when the attorney came here,

1

14

- 1 A Well, nothing.
- 2 Q So after learning that your ballot had been
- rejected, did you reach out to anyone in the Starr County
- clerk's office?
- 5 A No.
- 6 Q Did you reach out --
- No. I mean, I don't have -- you don't have any 7
- knowledge of none of it.
- Q Did you reach out -- after you learned that your
- ballot had been rejected, did you reach out to or speak with
- anyone in the Texas Secretary of State's office?
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q Did you -- other than the attorney and the woman
- who was at this meeting, did you speak with anyone about
- your ballot being rejected?
- 16 A No.
- Q Ms. Guerrero, do you intend to vote in future 17
- 18 elections?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Do you intend to vote by mail or to go in person?
- 21 A Maybe I'll go in person. I don't want these
- 22 problems anymore.
- 23 Q So just to make sure I understand, it's your
- testimony that in the future you may go and vote in person 24
- 25 instead of by mail?
- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Have you voted in any election since the March 2018
- 3 primary?
- 4 A No.
- 5 MR. ABRAMS: Uno momento. Give me a minute.
- 6 I speak a little Spanish.
- 7 Q (By Mr. Abrams) Ms. Guerrero, have you understood
- 8 the questions that I've asked you today?
- 9 A Yes.
- Q And have I been courteous with you today? 10
- 11 A Very courteous.
- 12 MR. ABRAMS: Okay. We will pass the witness.
- MR. GARZA: And I just have a couple of 13
- questions -- follow-up questions. 14
- **EXAMINATION** 15
- 16 BY MR. GARZA:
- 17 Q First, if you could take a look again at the second
- 18 page of the first exhibit that you were shown.
- 19 A This one?
- Q There, on the bottom of the page, it says -- that 20
- is the name Modesta Vela. 21
- 22 Do you know who Modesta Vela is?
- 23 A That was -- that was one of the people that showed
- up here. They came here. This was when they brought the --24
- the envelope.

- Q This is the application to receive a mail-in
- 2 ballot. Is that -- is that what you understand?
- 3 Yes
- 4 And do you remember when Ms. Vela and -- was

16

17

- Ms. -- let me back up.
- 6 Was Ms. Vela with more than one person?
- 7 A No. It was two.
- 8 Do you remember when they came to your house?
- 9 No, I don't remember which date when they -- they
- 10 came.
- 11 Q Okay. Did you know Ms. Vela?
- 12 I did not know her. I met her here.
- 13 Okay. And do you remember the name of the -- of
- 14 the woman that was with her?
- 15 No.
- 16 Q Did -- did you already have the form at your house,
- 17 or did they bring you the form?
- 18 A They brought it to me, and they left it here.
- 19 Okay. If you could, turn the page -- to the last
- 20 page. And do you know a Barbara Barrios?
- 21 Oh, yes, I do know her, yes.
- 22 And how do you know her?
- 23 Α I had met her here in the area before. She used to
- 24 sell shoes.
- 25 And do you remember if she came to your house?
- Yes, she was here before. I never went to her 1
  - 2 house.

15

- 3 Q And did you see her sign this form?
- 4 This one here? Yes.
- 5 Okay. And did you give her -- was she here by
- herself, or did she come with other people? 6
- 7 A With the other lady -- with that lady.
- 8 So she came with Ms. Vela?
- 9 (Witness nods head.)
- 10 They both came --
- 11 MR. GARZA: So -- I'm sorry. If she could
- 12 answer the question.
- 13
- 14 (By Mr. Garza) And so was the same two ladies that
- came -- that brought you the application that came when they
- picked up your ballot?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q And did -- when you -- when you signed the
- application, did they take the application with them? 19
- MS. VELA: Objection, form. 20
- 21 THE INTERPRETER: When they signed?
- 22 MR. GARZA: When she signed.
- 23 A Yes, they took it, but it was already -- the
- 24 envelope was already closed.
- 25 Q (By Ms. Garza) Did you put the stamp on the

	18			20
1	application? We're talking about the application first.	1	FURTHER EXAMINATION	
2	A You mean on the envelope?	2	BY MR. GARZA:	
3	Q Yes.	3	Q And I'm sorry to ask. How old are you?	
4	A No.	4	A I'm going to be turning 80.	
5	Q And on the on the on the third page, where	5	MR. GARZA: All right. Thank you.	
6	you signed for the ballot or where you voted, did you	6	MR. ABRAMS: I have no further questions.	
7	seal the envelope after you voted?	7	(Deposition concluded)	
8	A Yes.	8		
9	Q And did you put the stamp on the on the ballot	9		
10	envelope?	10		
11	A I didn't have any.	11		
12	Q And so did Ms. Barrios and Ms. Vela, did they take	12		
13	your ballot with them?	13		
14	A Yes.	14		
15	Q Did they witness how you voted?	15		
16	A No.	16		
17	Q Did when they came to pick up your ballot, did	17		
18	you already have your ballot, or did they bring you a	18		
19	ballot?	19		
20	A No. They brought it to me.	20		
21	Q Do you know how they got your ballot?	21		
22	MS. VELA: Objection, form.	22		
23	A No. They've always been involved working with	23		
24	ballots votes.	24		
25	Q (By Mr. Garza) So these two ladies have helped you	25		
	. ( )			
	19			21
1	19 vote before?	1	CHANGES AND SIGNATURE	21
1	vote before?	1 2	CHANGES AND SIGNATURE WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION:	21
2	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.	3	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	21
2	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them	3 4	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
2 3 4	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?	3	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
2 3 4 5	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?  A No. I didn't notice that.	3 4 5	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	   
2 3 4 5 6	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?  A No. I didn't notice that.  Q You didn't see them carrying other ballots with	3 4 5	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
2 3 4 5 6 7	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?  A No. I didn't notice that.  Q You didn't see them carrying other ballots with them?	3 4 5 6 7	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?  A No. I didn't notice that.  Q You didn't see them carrying other ballots with them?  A No.  Q And when they brought the application for you, did	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?  A No. I didn't notice that.  Q You didn't see them carrying other ballots with them?  A No.  Q And when they brought the application for you, did you notice whether they had other applications with them?	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	vote before?  A Yes. The previous years, yes.  Q And do you know if they had other ballots with them when they came to your house?  A No. I didn't notice that.  Q You didn't see them carrying other ballots with them?  A No.  Q And when they brought the application for you, did you notice whether they had other applications with them?  A No.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	WITNESS NAME: DATE OF DEPOSITION: PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	
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22	
1 I, MARIA GUERRERO, have read the foregoing deposition	1 was not requested by the deponent or a party before
2 and hereby fix my signature that same is true and correct,	2 the completion of the deposition.
3 except as noted above.	3 I further certify that I am neither counsel for, related
4	4 to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in
5	5 which this proceeding was taken, and further that I am not
MARIA GUERRERO	6 financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the
6	7 action.
7 STATE OF)	8 Subscribed and sworn to on this the 29th day of
8 COUNTY OF)	9 July, 2019
9 Before me,, on this day personally	10
10 appeared MARIA GUERRERO, known to me (or proved to me under	
11 oath or through) to be the person whose name	Toi K. Dowell, CSR No. 2768
12 is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged	12 Certified Expires 12/31/2019
	Integrity Legal Support Solutions
13 to me that they executed the same for the purposes and	13 Firm Registration No. 528
14 consideration therein expressed.	PO Box 245
15 Given under my hand and seal of office this	14 Manchaca, TX 78652
16 day of	(512)320-8690
17	15 (512)320-8692 (fax)
18	16 (312)323-0032 (lax)
19	17
	18
20 NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR	
THE STATE OF	19
21	20
22	21
23	22
24	23
25	24
	25
23	
1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS	
2 MCALLEN DIVISION	
3 FEDERICO FLORES, JR., § MARIA GUERRERO, and §	
4 VICENTE GUERRERO, §	
Plaintiffs, §	
5 §	
§ CIVIL ACTION NO.7:18-cv-113	
6 §	
v. § 7 §	
TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE and §	
8 ARMANDINA MARTINEZ, ALMA §	
GARCIA, ALICIA DOUGHERTY NO. §	
9 1, ALICIA DOUGHERTY NO. 2, §	
YOLANDA MARTINEZ, §	
10 Defendants. §	
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
12 ORAL DEPOSITION OF MARIA GUERRERO	
JULY 25, 2019	
13	
14 I, Toi K. Dowell, certified shorthand reporter in and	
<ul><li>15 for the State of Texas, hereby certify to the following:</li><li>16 That the witness MARIA GUERRERO was duly sworn by the</li></ul>	
17 officer and that the transcript of the deposition is a true	
18 record of the testimony given by the witness;	
19 I further certify that pursuant to the FRCP Rule	
20 30(f)(1) that the signature of the Deponent	
21 x was requested by the deponent or a party before the	
<ul><li>22 completion of the deposition and returned within 30 days</li><li>23 from date of receipt of the transcript. If returned, the</li></ul>	
24 attached Changes and Signature Page contains any changes and	
25 the reasons therefore:	